

DANA

she's not exactly my kid
she's my wife
by somebody else
but she's probably
as close as i'll
ever get to one
of my own.

i was supposed
to take her
to the saturday matinee
to see THE GREEN SLIME FROM OUTER SPACE.

friday night i took
empirin with codeine
for my knee put
a woman on the plane
to her father's funeral
got a dear pancho letter
spent the night
chasing women & the eight-ball
i scratched on both.

friday night hungover saturday morning
and i found myself
as the toad says
"fearing everything except death"
forgetting about the green slime
as she stood outside waiting.

dana i guess i'm
not much of a father
figure or a poet
but i do know you
don't have to go to a matinee
to see the green slime.

this then as an apology
for friday nights movie
pre-empting saturdays matinee.

but perhaps the mayor
put it best when he said:
you always wait until
i'm most vulnerable
& most defensive.